



Department of State

TELEGRAM

REVIEWED *[Signature]* DATE *10/9/80*

RD ☐ DS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
REASON(S) _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

P 041405Z MAY 70

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 669
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON 352

BT

TOP SECRET PHNOM PENH 739

~~MODTS~~/KHMER

1. I WAS CALLED IN BY FONMIN AT 1830 MAY 4 AND FOUND SIRIK MATAK AND GENERAL SUKSUTSAKHAN ALSO AWAITING ME.

2. SIRIK MATAK OPENED CONVERSATION BY REQUESTING THAT I PASS ON TO PRESIDENT NIXON GENERAL LON NOL'S GRATITUDE FOR EVERYTHING USG DOING FOR CAMBODIA AND THE GOC ADMIRATION FOR HIS COURAGEOUS AND HELPFUL SPEECH. LON NOL PERSONAL LETTER FOLLOWING SHORTLY.

3. MEETING THEN TURNED TO REVIEW OF MILITARY SITUATION DURING WHICH FOLLOWING POINTS MADE:

A. CITY OF KAMPOT ALMOST ENTIRELY CLEARED OF ENEMY.

B. ROAD NORTH FROM KAMPOT CUT AT CHHOUK ON ROUTE NUMBER 3.

C. TAKEO STILL HOLDING OUT ALTHOUGH PAY THUTE BATTALIONS HAVE NOT REACHED CITY FROM ANG TASOM.

D. LEFT BANK OF MEKONG AT NEAK LEUNG FERRY LOST AS ARE TWO OTHER LOCALITIES TO NORTH ON WAY TO TOWN OF PREY VENG.

E. NUMBER OF ENEMY TROOPS HAVE CROSSED MEKONG AT FERRY AND BEGINNING TRY MOVE TOWARD PHNOM PENH AS ARE TROOPS WHICH HAD WITHDRAWN BEFORE SAANG.

F. AS RESULT INCREASING THREAT TO PREY VENG AND RELEASE OF SOME PRESSURE TO NORTH THANKS TO US/ARVN MIMOT OPERATION, GOC MOVING BATTALION SOUTH FROM AREA OF CHUP TO ASSIST PREY VENT. AS RESULT LATTER MOVE, GENERAL LON NOL WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING US/ARVN STAY MIMOT AREA FOR TIME BEING.

G. GENERAL LON NOL REPEATS REQUEST MADE SOME TIME AGO FOR SOME

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~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~

Pol 27 Camb / Khmer

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May 4, 1970 2:31 PM

Phonograph 739
5/4/70

REF ID: A66070
TOP SECRET

-2- Phnom Penh 739

May 4, 1970

NODIS/KHMER

SORT OPERATION IN AREA BETWEEN BASSAC AND MEKONG RIVERS NORTH FROM SVN BORDER. THIS AREA ALL THE WAY TO LEVEL OF NEAK LEUNG FERRY LARGELY INFESTED WITH NVNA/VC.

H. GENERAL LON NOL WOULD LIKE ARVN FORCES DEIVE ALL THE WAY FROM SVAY RIENG TO MEKONG RIVER ON HIGHWAY ONE.

I. GOC HOPES FOR AT LEAST 3,000 MORE KHMER TROOPS TO PROTECT PHNOM PENH WHICH HAS BEEN PRETTY WELL STRIPPED TO MEET THREATS ESLEWHERE (COMMENT: WHILE THIS IS LARGELY TRUE, I BELIEVE SOME OF DIFFICULTY COMES FROM NOT KNOWING QUITE HOW TO USE SPECIAL FORCES TROOPS JUST RECEIVED.)

J. GENERAL SAKSUTSAKHAN CONCLUDED EXPOSE OF MILITARY SITUATION BY EXPRESSING SOME ANXIETY RE SITUATION IN EXTREME NORTHEAST FOLLOWING FALL OF ATTOPEU. SINCE THIS OCCURANCE, TWO FORWARD CAMBODIAN POSTS HAVE BEEN HEAVILY ATTACKED AND WITHDRAWN IN RATANAKIRI PROVINCE AND ONE POST HAS BEEN LOST ON LAO FRONTIER EAST OF MEKONG IN STUNG TRENG PROVINCE. FURTHER SOUTH THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT NVNA/VC ENTERING CAMBODIA FROM SVN IN PICHRA DA DISTRICT, MONDULKIRI PROVINCE AND MOGING SOUTH TOWARD SENMONOROM WHICH STILL IN GOC HANDS.

4. IN MY REPLY, I STATED WOULD FORWARD GOC EXPOSE AND REQUESTS BUT COULD PROMISE NOTHING, SINCE SOME OF REQUESTS APPEARED TO ME TO GO BEYOND LIMITS SET BY PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND OTHERS MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF OPERATIONS ALREADY UNDER WAY.

RIVES

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